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have come to pass with himself as witness, and this gives him in large measure the mental attitude for the reading of the record of more extended change.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

Life in the Moslem East. By Pierre Ponafidine. Translated from the Russian by Emma Cochrane Ponafidine. xiii and 429 pp. Ills. Dodd, Mead & Co., New York, 1911. 9½ x 6½.

Consul-General Ponafidine's work is not a political memoir, indeed he is sedulous to avoid the slightest revelation of the policy which he so successfully administered. Just by reason of this reserve, of this very careful hiding, the work is all the more valuable as a contribution toward our knowledge of what Russia is doing in that vast area of central Asia whence in the past have swept over and over again waves of crude barbaric might upsetting high civilizations. The barbarian of the central desert is still at the Chinese Wall, still does he hover at India's scientific frontier. But in these later days at the back of the barbarian stands Russia. From the Gate of the Caucasus to the Gate of the East, the Russian is popular and the Briton is unpopular. After conquest each is busy in the task of administration; the British tax is scientifically adjusted and it galls, the Russian impost is everything that is uneconomical and it is paid with a smile. The author does not reveal why this is so, but there are unstudied revelations, and these are all the more valuable. The keynote of the greater Russian policy is sympathy. It may be at times an amused tolerance, but it is always sympathetic.

Other works are readily accessible which cover the field of this work. We have more minute studies of Persia; in greater detail we may readily find the story of the sacred pilgrimage to Mecca; there is store of critical study of India. But not in one nor in all is there to be found the elucidation which this volume sheds upon Russia in Asia. It is a very human problem and calls for human sympathy. Russia in Asia is but the sum and congeries of the Russian in Asia. The author's record of the life and the alien culture with which he has had to deal is intimate and appreciative. He sets forth a record of the turmoil and the calm of the East which is charged with sympathy whether he is dealing with the crudity of those days at Mecca about the Kaaba or the gentle violence of the worshippers of Bowani, the latter so little comprehended by the British that in our speech their name of Thug has become typical of the rude violence which was essentially not their method. Read with this understanding in the reader's mind, the work should prove a contribution of rare value to our knowledge of the great drama which is working out in mid-Asia. WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

Meine Vorderasiens-Expedition 1906 und 1907. Band I, Erster Teil. Die fachwissenschaftlichen Ergebnisse. Von Hugo Grothe. Mit Beiträgen von Prof. Dr. Broili, Dr. J. Oehler, Dr. T. Menzel, Hofrat Prof. Dr. J. Strzygowski, und Prof. Dr. L. Curtius. xvi + cclxxxv pp. 162 ill., 2 plans and 1 map.* Verlag von Karl W. Hiersemann, Leipzig, 1911. M. 28. 10 x 7½.

Four years have elapsed since the completion of the author's exploration of the Antitaurus in particular and of Cappadocia in general, and now we begin to have the results. Grothe was busy in the field for a year and a half, finishing on the last day of 1907. In this volume we find nine essays dealing with specific detail of the geography of the expedition or with specific collections made in connection therewith. Four of these essays are by Dr. Grothe. The

* Listed under "Turkey in Asia" on p. 318.

other five are by Broili of Munich on the geological and paleontological results, by Oehler of Vienna on the Greek and Roman epigraphy of Cappadocia, by Menzel of Odessa—by far the largest essay in the volume—on the Jezidae or devil worshipers, including translations and critical commentary of the Turkish text of Mustafa Nuri Pasha, by Strzygowski of Vienna on the art remains at Comana, Masylyk and Kaissari, and by Curtius of Erlangen on the minor artifacts gathered from the ruins under examination. These will appeal each in its own field to the several specialists.

We find a wider appeal in the geographical results which are included in the essays by Dr. Grothe. He is not yet ready to present the narrative of his long and sedulous exploration in this interesting field which has long been neglected. Where these essays will adjust themselves to the work in its entirety must be determined in the future. For the present he gives us brief reports on the ruins of Masylyk which seems abundantly identified with the Augusta of Ptolemy, on the topography and historical geography of Comana Cappadociae, and notes of peculiar value upon the Hittite memorials which he found in his travels and several of which he brought to light. The illustrations are excellent, the epigraphic material thus presented will be found of great value in the study of this type of palæography.

His map of the Antitaurus whets our appetite for the more generally geographical reports of the expedition. In this he has covered the area between 36° – 37° E. Long. and 38° – $38^{\circ}45'$ N. Lat. In this area the red lines of his route show how deeply he has penetrated into mountain valleys, how keen he has been to break away from trodden paths and investigate the wilder regions. The result is shown in a brilliant series of observed contours which will go far to set forth the intricacy of these mountains which have preserved no less than four culture societies far into the periods of their successors.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

Burma: A Handbook of Practical Information. By Sir J. George Scott. x and 520 pp. Map,* ills. and index. Alexander Moring, Ltd., London, 1911. 10s 6d. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5$.

Though announced as a new and revised edition, it is more correct to describe this as a reprinting of a volume whose value has brought recognition as the standard authority upon that great region which used to be known as Farther India. The revision is comprehended in a page of errata to be corrected and in the rewriting of the appendix chapter on the Shan States to conform with the richer knowledge which has become available in the five years since the Handbook was first given to the press. It might prove difficult to assign too high a degree of praise to this work, a model of all that a compendium of the life and history of a people should be. It carries, and presents in an orderly arrangement, all the information for which the investigator would naturally consult its pages. It passes far beyond these limits, it is instinct with that sympathetic appreciation of the traits of the people of his charge which has set Sir James George Scott in the list of the great British proconsuls and which we have learned to esteem when he writes of the Burman under the thin veil of his pen name Shway Yoe. Those who have found it impossible to acquire the first edition of the Handbook will count it no hardship to take pen to make the corrections indicated on the errata table and thus to make the revision revised indeed.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

* Listed under "British India," *Bull.*, Vol. 44, No. 1, Jan., 1912, p. 79.